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漫畫　夢馬工作室

武道狂之詩

1

狼派武俠漫畫

原作　喬靖夫
漫畫　夢馬工作室　東立

武魂不折。俠氣沖天。

喬靖夫伙同夢馬工作室，以獨特視角，有別傳統的筆鋒，翻起新世代武俠漫畫的怒濤！

「喬夢馬武門令，興隆出武，以喬派武當派武學，天下無敵！」號稱「巴蜀劍雄」，以超凡武學坐鎮四川的青城劍派，猶如貴族般為凡人尊崇，卻遇上了劍派數百年來最大危機：強大的武當派遠征軍，打著「天下無敵，劍劍武林」的旗號，登山求戰！

被譽為百年第一劍術天才的掌門何自聖，與十七歲便晉身道傳弟子的少年燕橫，兩代劍士共同為悍衛青城，死拼如狼似虎的武當高手！

血與鋼鐵的征途，於焉展開！

ISBN 978-962-955-849-9

香港夢馬工作室正式授權香港中文版
東立出版集團有限公司出品
http://www.tlcomics.com
定價HK$35元

喬靖夫的話

我有位練武的師兄姓陳，最初看《武道狂》第一章時非常喜歡鬼刀陳這角色，還把他當作自己，不料再揭幾頁後，鬼刀陳就完蛋了……他哇哇向我投訴，但我跟他解釋：「沒辦法，每個武者也有自己的宿命啊。」以後「鬼刀陳」就變成這位師兄洗不脫的外號了，這也是一種宿命。

東立出版社 X 夢馬工作室
http://www.blood-and-steel.com

武道求生存

狼派武俠漫畫

原作 喬靖夫

漫畫 夢馬工作室

Author: Qiao Jingfu 喬靖夫
Manhua by: Meng Ma Gong 夢馬工作室

BLOOD & STEEL

Chapter 1

BLOOD & STEEL

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BLOOD AND STEEL

by Qiao Jingfu and Meng Ma Gong Zuo Shi
喬靖夫　　夢馬工作室

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Chapter 1:
The Battle of
Wulitting

THIS...
THIS
IS...

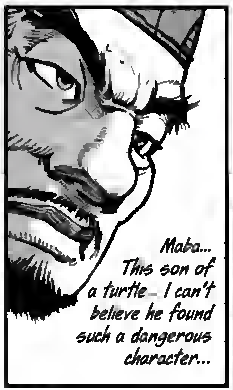
These commoners...

Are no match for us.

Wuliting
Located outside of Sichuan Guanxian.

T/N: BROTHERS IS ANOTHER TERM FOR MERCENARY IN WUXIA CHINESE
IT'S ALREADY NOON OLD MAN ZHUANG. ARE YOU GOING TO LET OUR BROTHERS* GET SOAKED IN THIS DOWNPOUR?
ARE YOU GOING TO FIGHT THIS BATTLE?
Months ago, a tiny street dispute erupted in Guanxian, but because the ruffians continually looked for revenge, the matter soon grew worse. In the end, the dispute became the matter of two big land owners', Old Man Zhuang and Maba. Each, eventually gathered close to a hundred men to end this dispute at this meeting spot.

I'LL GET TO THE POINT INSPECTOR ZHOU.
IF THIS BATTLE DOESN'T GO THROUGH, YOU WILL HAVE TO DECIDE FOR US.


Maba... This son of a turtle— I can't believe he found such a dangerous character...

OLD MAN ZHUANG, IF YOU WANT TO SURRENDER I'D SUGGEST YOU DO SO QUICKLY. YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO WASTE GHOST KNIFE CHEN'S TIME, RIGHT?

God save us, they really have to come.

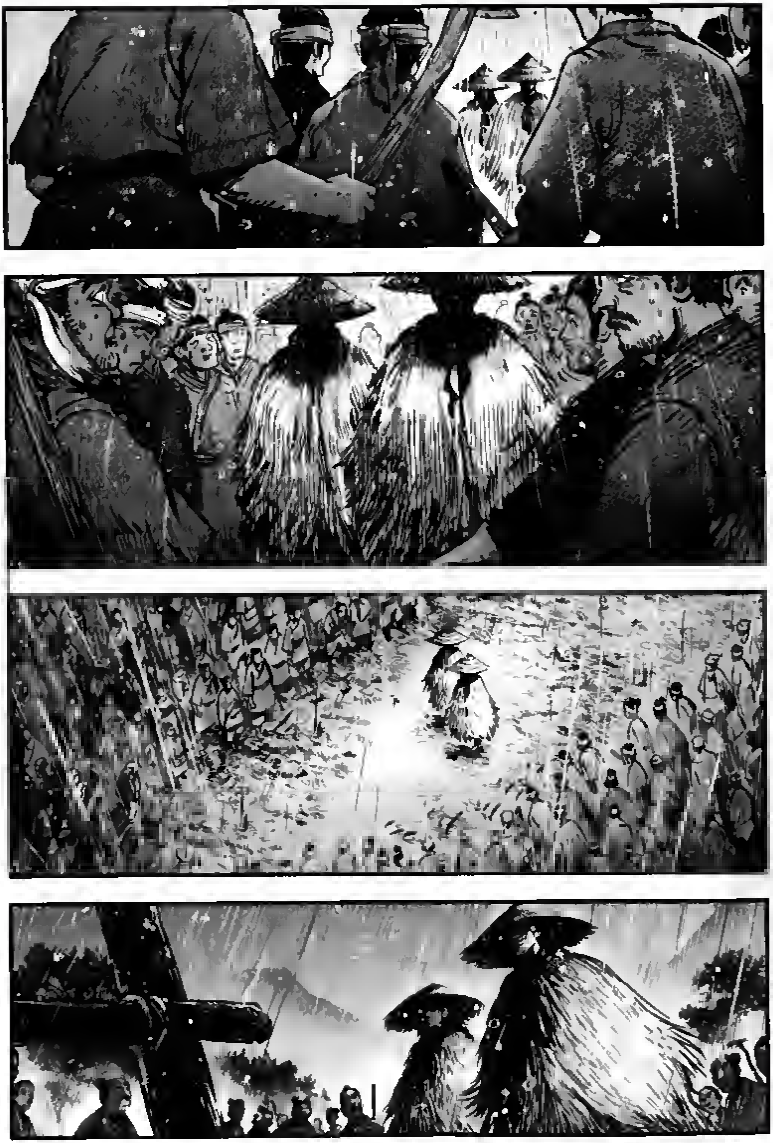
YES...
DID YOU REALLY SEND THE GIFT UP THE MOUNTAIN?

WHY WON'T YOU SAY WHO YOU SENT FOR? IS IT BECAUSE I SUMMONED CHEN AND YOU ARE EMBARRASSED TO TELL?
OLD MAN ZHUANG, JUST WHO IS YOUR HELPER EXACTLY?
IF THEY DON'T SHOW UP... THEN I, ZHOU, WILL DECIDE. THE ONE DEFEATED IN BATTLE MUST PAY THIRTY LIANG* TO THE WINNER. THE LOSER ALSO MUST PAY FOR ALL MEDICAL FEES OF BOTH PARTIES. FINALLY, THE DEFEATED PARTY MUST PAY FOR FIFTY TABLES OF FOOD AND DRINKS AT TAIPING RESTAURANT TO CREATE A BETTER ATMOSPHERE.
T/N. LIANG IS A FORM OF CURRENCY.
THEY ARE...
FROM THE MOUNTAINS!

The Quing-cheng
Mountains.*
*Green City mountains

OLD MAN ZHUANG, DON'T LIE ABOUT SUCH THINGS!
IF THEY HEARD OF SOMEONE USING THEIR NAME FOR THEIR OWN GAIN, EVEN YOU AND I WOULD SUFFER UNTOLD REPERCUSSIONS.
AH!
WELL ...

THEY...
THEY ACTUALLY CAME...



I AM ZHANG PENG, FROM THE SCHOOL OF QUING-CHENG SWORD STYLE.

I, FOLLOWING MY MASTER'S ORDER TO RESOLVE THIS MATTER, HAVE ACCOMPANIED MY JUNIOR HERE.
Accompanied?
...YAN XIAO LIU OF THE QUING CHENG SWORD STYLE

HOW ABOUT IT?
MABA, WE SHALL DO IT LIKE THIS.
MASTER CHEN, YOU ALSO HEARD THEM, RIGHT? THE QUING-CHENG SWORD STYLE MASTER SENT THEM. SO I, ZHUANG, SHALL OFFER A BOLD IDEA LET US USE INSPECTOR ZHOU'S IDEA THE LOSER'S MASTER PAYS THIRTY SILVER LIANG, AS WELL AS MEDICAL FEE... AND FINALLY, A HOST OF FIFTY TABLE OF FOOD AND DRINK FROM TAIPING RESTAURANT.
WHAT IF WE DON'T AGREE TO THE TERMS?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN "ACCOMPANIED"?
.....
YAN SHAO* XIA**, THINGS HAPPENED LIKE THIS...
ACCORDING TO THE MASTER, THIS MATTER WILL BE NOVICE YAN'S DUTY.
T/N: SHAO= YOUNG. XIA= A HERO-LIKE PERSON WHO TRAVELS AROUND HELPING PEOPLE.
SINCE ZHUANG ASKED US FOR HELP...
NO NEED TO EXPLAIN...
WHAT?!
I AM TO DO EVERYTHING AS ZHUANG REQUESTED.

THAT...
COUGH ...
THAT IS...
...ZHUANG'S DECISION... IS OUR MASTER'S DECISION.

HEY ZHANG! DID YOU SAY THAT THIS WOULD BE SETTLED BY YOUR JUNIOR AND THAT YOU WERE MERELY ACCOMPANYING HIM?
YES. ONLY ONE QUING-CHENG SWORD SHALL BE UNSHEATHED.

I HAVE 20 YEARS OF LIFE-AND-DEATH EXPERIENCE ON MY BACK...
SO WHAT? EVERYONE HAS TWO ARMS AND LEGS. EVERYONE HAS TO WORK FOR WHAT THEY NEED TO LIVE.
HEH, SO THIS IS THE RENOWNED SWORD SCHOOL EVERYONE TALKS ABOUT.
I CAN NOT BE DEFEATED BY SOME YOUNGSTER!
YOUR—
DRAW—

...SWORDS!

Only three people were able
to see what truly happened...

As for Ghost Blade Chen, who had slain thirty government officials, and had always been proud of his swift blade...
It was his first —
And his last...

Experience with true speed.

Star Chasing Moon!
星追月

It was his first time facing such a hostile opponent at the age of seventeen, which he indented to kill.
Power surges from the forceful step of his foot, up his waist, through his chest and arm, and out his very fingertips. Each muscle and joint multiplies the energy grows in strength, following through to the tip of his sword. This ancient, secret technique called Wudang-had-Yan* plunging his sword with deadly accuracy at Chen's throat.
Yan Xiao Liu has been training and practicing thousands of Quing-cheng Sword techniques, swinging his blade 500 times a day for the past six years. He thrusts with no hesitation...

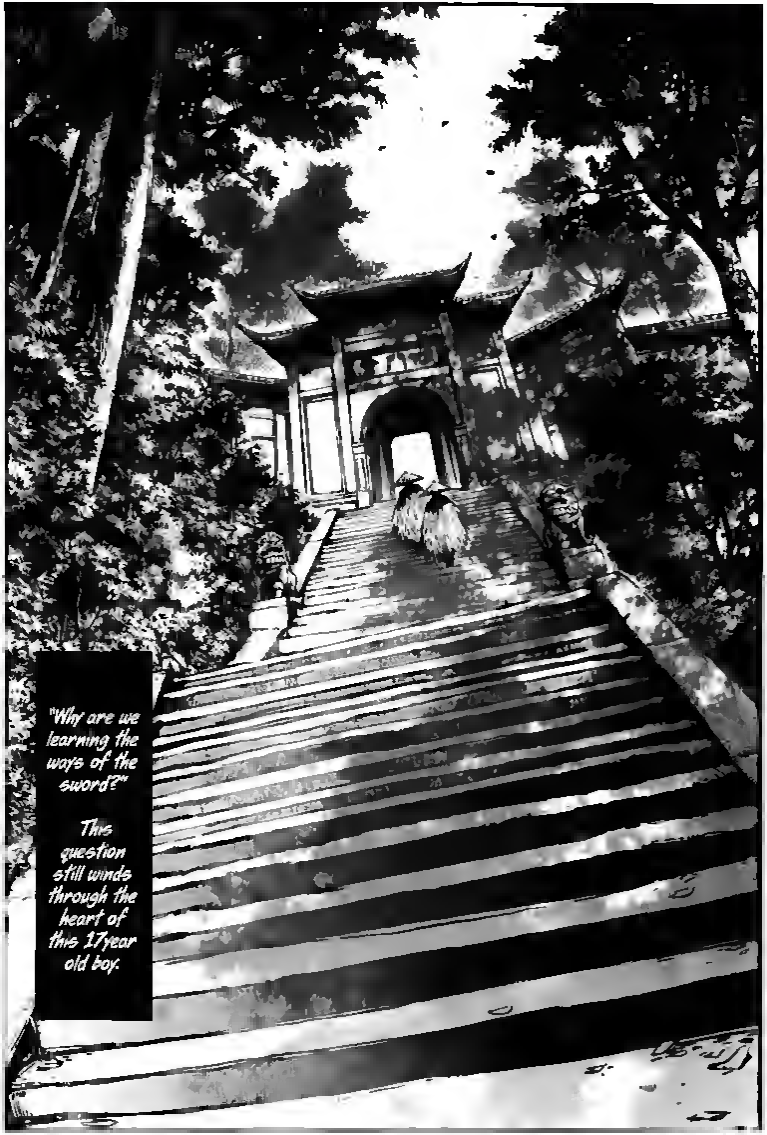
*Wudang-had-Yan= chi and power

YAN XIAO LIU, THIS MAN IS NO WORTHY TO DIE UNDER A QUING-CHENG SWORD.

If Zhang Peng hadn't pressed down his thrust, Yan Xiao Liu's sword would have already pierced Chen's throat.

ADEPT ZHANG THERE IS SOMETHING I STILL DO NOT UNDER-STAND...
OLD MAN ZHUANG ISN'T A GOOD PERSON, WHY DID MASTER HELP HIM?

MASTER DIDN'T CARE WHICH SIDE WE HELP.
IT JUST HAPPEN THE ONE WHO ASKED US WAS ZHUANG.
.....
XIAO LIU, IF ANY OF THOSE PEOPLE OUTSIDE OF WULITANG HAD FOUGHT, HOW MANY DO YOU THINK WOULD HAVE DIED? AND JUST HOW MUCH SUFFERING WOULD THAT CAUSE?
YOUR ONE THRUST SAVED A LOT OF PEOPLE, MANY WITH A FAMILY.
THIS IS WHAT IT MEANS TO HELP PEOPLE. THAT IS WHAT THE SCHOOL OF QUING-CHENG SWORD STYLE DOES
...Helping?


"Why are we learning the ways of the sword?"
This question still winds through the heart of this 17year old boy.

Chapter 1
- END-

To be continued..

BLOOD AND STEEL

by

Author: 喬靖夫 > Jozev

Manhua by 夢馬工作室 > Unicorn Studios

Comic Design > Felix Ip

Script: Toe Yuen

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Any strong martial art style requires a ranking series for their pupils.
They select the best students by the potential they exhibit, and then train them extensively
This ensures the growth of the pupils, as well as their ability to pass down the specialties and techniques of the school
Extraordinary dormant abilities, stamina, and personality are needed for a martial arts student to excel in combat. The student must also spar with other pupils to hone his talents
The first, and most basic student is the entering student or recruit.
Using the School of Qing-cheng Sword Style as an example, there are 142 students, all of whom are organized into three categories.

Once you are on the mountain, your background no longer matters. There, you are trained intensively for two years.
Generally, half of the entering students are unable to handle this form of training. Within those two years, they flee or resign from the school.
Only those with the natural born ability to withstand this harsh training*, and genuinely want to study martial arts, are later elevated to Novice, thus becoming official students of the martial arts style
These students have no age limit. Even people of advanced age will be limited to this level, and will have to continue in their efforts to excel and advance.

*T/N: THIS IS ACTUALLY THE CAPABILITY OF YOUR NERVES, AND THERE ARE NO WAYS TO HONE THEM.

HERE, FOR YOU.
HELLO, MY NAME'S HOU YING-ZHI.

I'M
YAN XIAO
LIU.

WHY DID YOU INTEFERE WITH YOUR JUNIOR?!
NEW ADEPT YAN LACKS ANY ABILITY TO HOLD BACK IN BATTLE. I WORRIED ABOUT WHAT WOULD BECOME OF HIM IF HE KILLED SOMEONE AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE...

A QING-CHENG STYLE SWORD ISN'T MEANT FOR CARVING FLOWER ORNA-MENTS!
IF HE IS UNABLE TO KILL, HE ISN'T WORTHY OF A SWORD!
I, ZHANG PENG, ACKNOW-LEDGE MY WRONG-DOING!
ZHANG PENG! SUCH SOFT WORDS ARE FORBIDDEN IN FRONT OF THE YOUNGER PUPILS!
SHEN
THOUGH THE NEW ADEPT IS STILL IMMATURE, HIS TECHNIQUE IS SUPERB. HE SURELY HAS MORE TALENT THAN I

HEAD-MASTER.
IT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN A POOR DECISION TO LET THAT MAN LIVE.
IT ALLOWS GHOST BLADE CHEN TO SPREAD THE QING-CHENG NAME FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE.
THANK YOU FOR COMING, ASSISTANT HEADMASTER.
Qing-cheng Sword Style's Assistant Headmaster, Song Zhen.
HM.

HA!
HAH!
HAH!
UGH!
HAH!
HA!
ガ!!
ガガ

HAH!
HA!
!
XIAO LIU'S BACK!

HOW WAS THE SWORD PRACTICE?
DID ANYTHING INTERESTING HAPPEN WHEN YOU WENT DOWN THE MOUNTAIN?
HOW DID IT FEEL TO HOLD A REAL SWORD?!
TELL ME? TELL ME?
WHAT HAPPENED?
When a Novice is finally recognized, he is sent down the mountain to test his abilities with the sword. This test usually involves the student defeating and killing an evil martial artist or bandit.
WHO WAS THE OPPONENT? WAS HE STRONG?
If you are successful in your endeavor you are elevated to Adept, the highest ranking pupil, and then added to the school's rank system
From then on, the most difficult and secret techniques are taught to the student by the headmaster himself.
In fact, this is the dream of each and every Novice.

GHOST BLADE CHEN?! I'VE HEARD OF HIM! HE'S PRETTY FAMOUS!
THE OPPONENT WAS CALLED GHOST BLADE CHEN...

HOW MANY TECH-NIQUES DID YOU USE?
WHAT TECH-NIQUES DID YOU USE?
DID YOU FINISH HIM?

LET'S HAVE A MATCH!

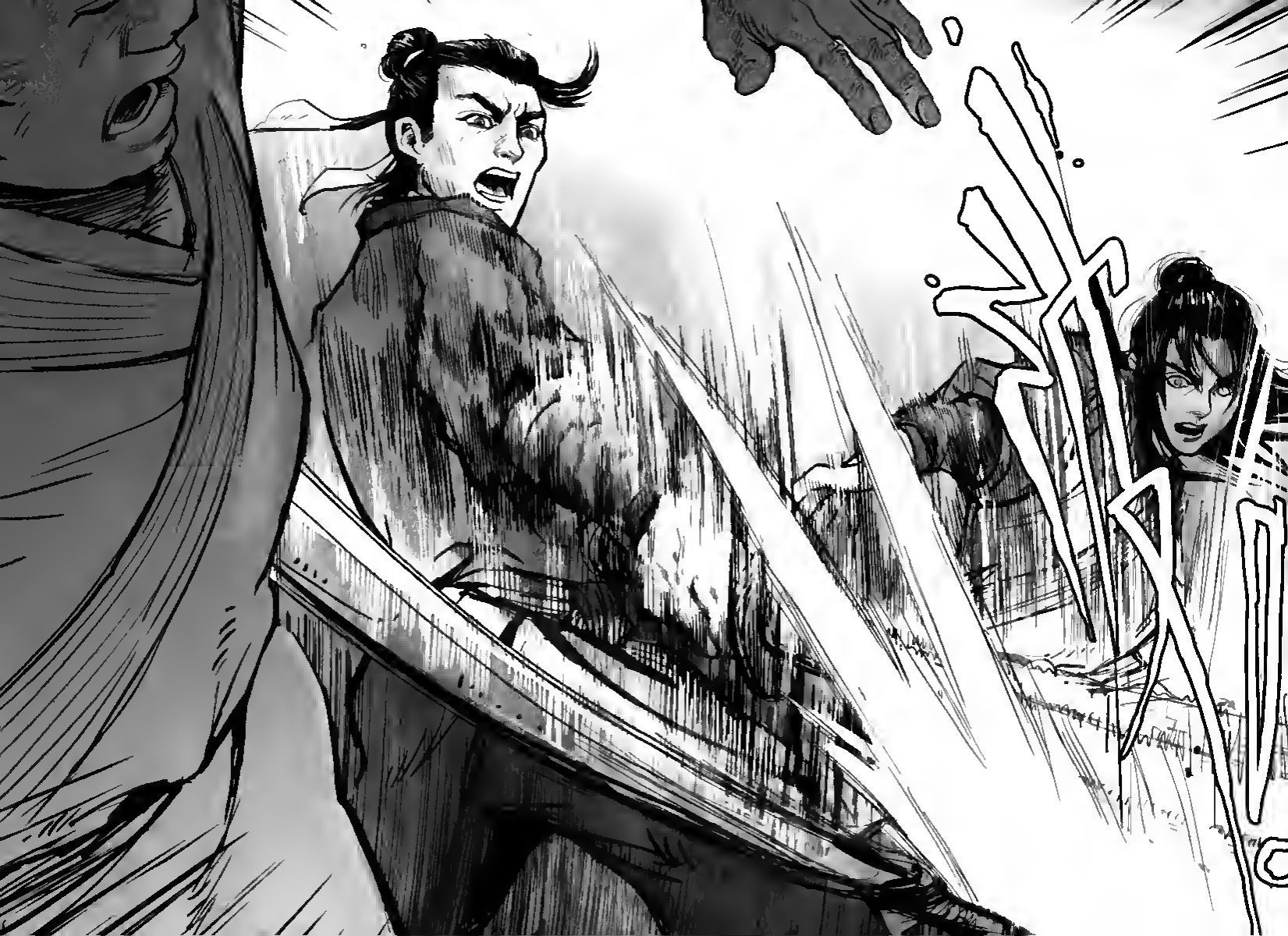
XIAO LIU, I BET YOUR TRIP DOWN WASN'T EVEN A WARM-UP.
YOU DON'T LOOK TIRED AT ALL!

COME!
!

HO!
IT LOOKS LIKE DAI JIE IS MUCH STRONGER THAN GHOST BLADE CHEN!

.....
XIAO LIU! BE MORE SERIOUS!
!
HUFF
HUFF

URGH!

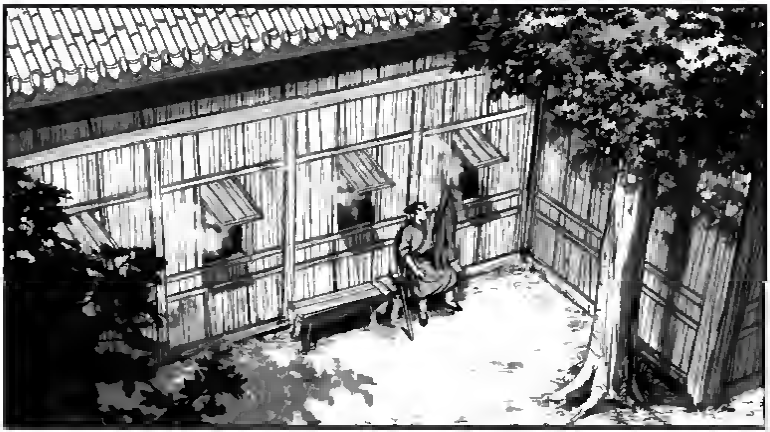


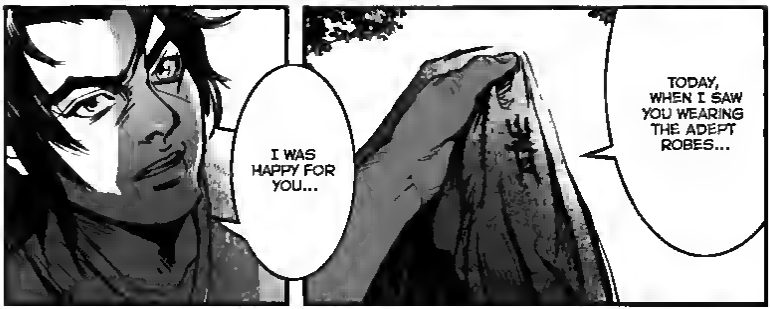
DID YOU FORGET THE HEAD-MASTER'S LESSON?
URGH!

IF YOU GO DOWN THE MOUNTAIN ON A MISSION, YOU ARE FORBIDDEN TO TRAIN THE DAY YOU GET BACK!
YOUR MURDEROUS INTENT MAY NOT BE GONE YET! YOU WILL ENDANGER THE OTHER STUDENTS WITH YOUR RISKY BEHAVIOR!
SONG SHI-SHU...
I'M SORRY!
I FORGOT...

XIAO LIU ALREADY UNDERSTANDS HIS MISTAKE, FORGIVE HIM...
SONG SHI-SHU, THAT'S ENOUGH...
HOU YINGZHI! GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME! IT IS NOT YOUR PLACE TO SPEAK!
...MY APOLO-GIES...

YINGZHI! LOOK AFTER HIM!
YES...
TAKE HIM TO THE SHOWERS, AND MAKE SURE HE MEDITATES UNTIL HE'S CALM.
Song Shi-Shu is really angry today...




TODAY, WHEN I SAW YOU WEARING THE ADEPT ROBES...
I WAS HAPPY FOR YOU...

OH...
IS THAT SO?
I...
YINGZHI... I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE UNHAPPY.

WHEN YOU BECAME AN ADEPT AT THE AGE OF SEVENTEEN, YOU BROKE HIS RECORD OF TWENTY. THERE'S NO WAY HE'S HAPPY ABOUT SOMEONE YOUNGER BEATING HIM.
THE UNHAPPY ONE IS SONG SHI-SHU.
OF COURSE NOT!
NO...
ACTUALLY, I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT RANKS OR ANYTHING...
I ONLY WANTED TO STAY HERE ON QING-CHENG MOUNTAIN.
IF THEY DON'T WANT ME, WHY SHOULD I WANT THEM?
THOUGHT ABOUT RETURNING HOME?
HAVEN'T YOU EVER...

THE DAY THEY SOLD ME...
CONFIRMED TO ME...
THAT MY ONLY FAMILY IN QING-CHENG IS YOU, YINGZHI.
YOU ARE MUCH MORE FORTUNATE THAN I
WHETHER YOU LIKE THEM OR NOT, YOU HAVE A HOME TO RETURN TO.
I HAVE TO BECOME STRONGER, OR ELSE I WILL HAVE NOTHING.

MY FATHER'S A BASTARD. THE ONLY GOOD THING HE EVER DID FOR ME WAS TO SEND ME HERE.
BUT I WON'T END UP LIKE HIM.
HE TRAINED FOR TEN YEARS, YET NEVER MADE IT TO ADEPT.
AFTER THAT, HE LEFT, AND DIDN'T EVEN SUCCEED AT BEING A HALF DECENT BODY-GUARD.
NOW, HE DRINKS EVERYDAY, AND IS GOING TO DIE LIKE A DOG.

MAYBE I STILL HAVE A BIT OF AN ATTACH-MENT...
SO I WOULD BECOME STRONG! SO I WOULD BECOME A SWORD MASTER ABOVE ALL OTHERS!
HOWEVER, THE TRUTH IS HEAVEN GAVE ME THIS KIND OF FATHER-

I AM NOT SAD ABOUT LOSING TO YOU.
I AM ONLY ANGRY WITH PEOPLE WHO LACK A GOAL.
I PROMISE YOU, IN ONE YEAR TOPS, MY NAME WILL BE RECORDED IN THE RANKINGS TOO!
THEN WE, WHO ARE NEARLY BROTHERS, WILL BE QING-CHENG'S PILLARS!
WOULDN'T THAT BE GREAT?

*T/N: AFTER A STUDENT OBTAINS THE RANK OF ADEPT, EVERY NOVICE IS REQUIRED TO CALL HIM DOYEN (SENIOR).

Becoming...
Qing-cheng's pillar?
Is it possible?

Chapter
2 /END

BLOOD AND STEEL

by

Author: 喬靖夫 > Jozev
Manhua by 夢馬工作室 > Unicorn Studios
Comic Design > Felix Ip
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ドドドドド
ズ

SO THE CHUANXI GHOSTS ...
HA! ONLY USE THESE TYPE OF COWARDLY TRICKS, EH?
I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE OR WHY YOU ARE FIGHTING WITH US...
BUT BOTH SIDES ARE EXHAUSTED AND TO CONTINUE FIGHTING WOULD BE FOOLISH.
WE WILL NOT SEEK RETRIBUTION FOR THE DEAD AND MUTILATED IF YOU ALLOW US TO GO OUR WAY, AND YOU GO YOURS.

HMPH, YOU GUYS SHOULD BE THANKING ME.

SINCE YOU MANAGED TO HURT ONE OF MY FINGERS...
YOUR NAME WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY!!
That two handed sword style...

When He Zi-Sheng was twenty-three years old he single handedly slayed all thirty-one members of the Chuanxi Ghosts.
I'M HE ZI-SHENG
OF THE QING-CHENG SWORD STYLE!

HEAD-MASTER, IF YOU WILL...

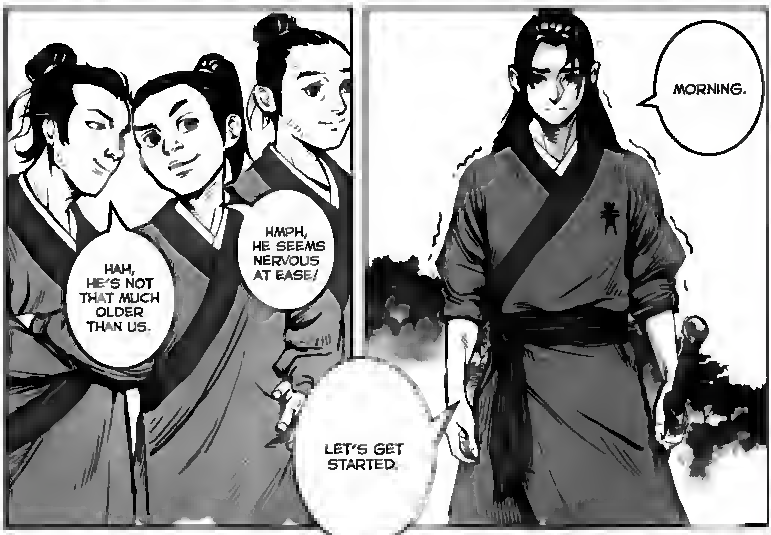
ONCE NEW YEAR'S DAY PASSES IT WILL BE SEVEN YEARS.
WHEN DID YOU FIRST COME TO QING-CHENG MOUNTAIN, XIAO LIU?
OHH.. GOOD.
THREE YEARS AGO, DURING THE WINTER COMPETITION, YOU WON TWO OF YOUR THREE FIGHTS...
I had no idea Headmaster was following my progress...
AND IN THIS YEAR'S SUMMER COMPETITION YOU WON ALL THREE OF YOU FIGHTS, CORRECT?

YOU WERE BORN THE CHILD OF A LOWLY FARMER, THUS YOUR NAME IS TOO COMMON-PLACE...
WHEN YOU ARE OUT GAINING EXPERIENCE OR HELPING PEOPLE, DON'T USE IT.
I WILL GRANT YOU A NEW NAME ...
WITH JUST A SINGLE WORD, HENG.
YES, SIR...
Yan Heng
燕橫

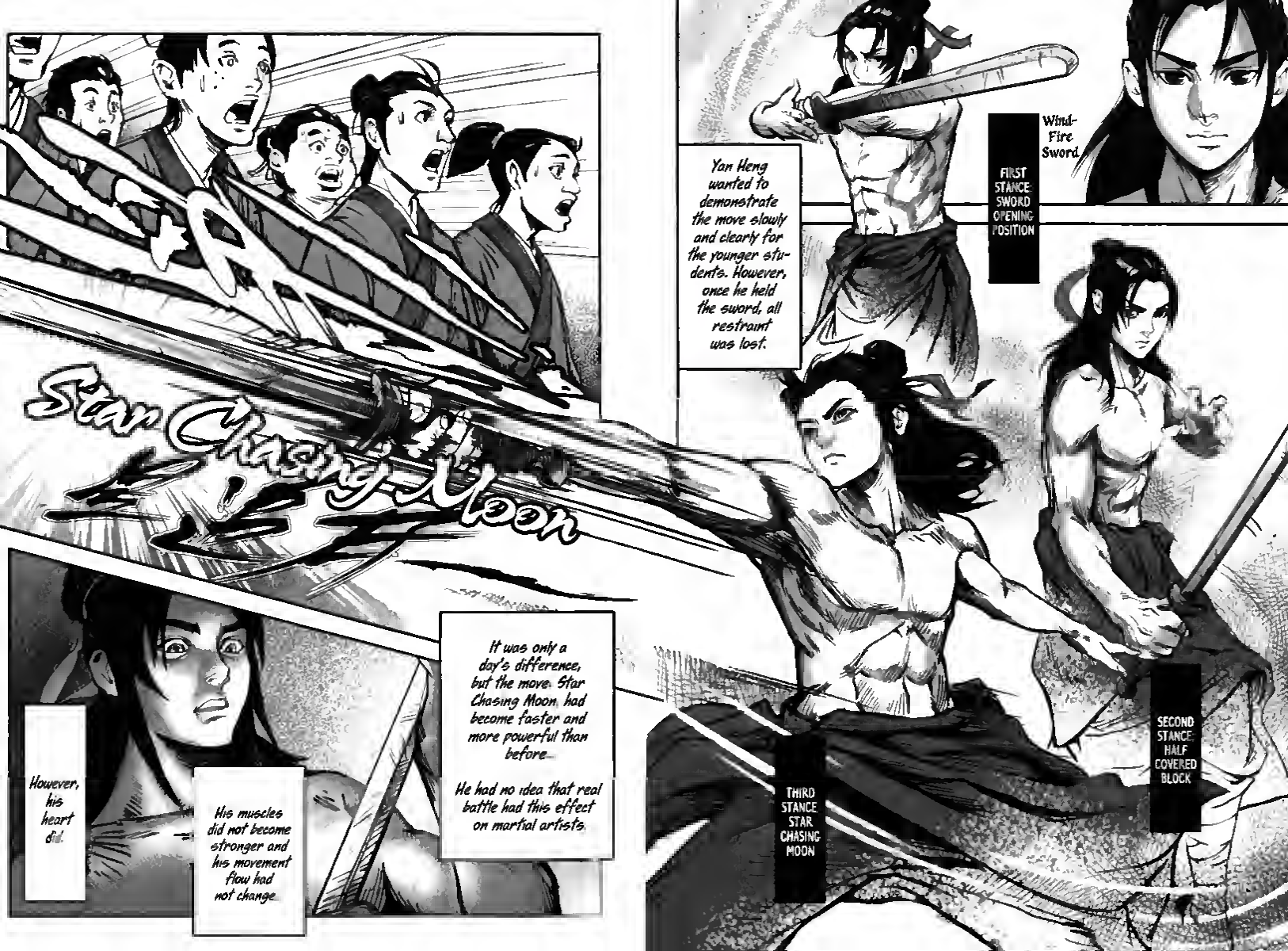
LISTEN WELL PUPIL YAN HENG, ON THIS DAY, QING-CHENG SWORD STYLE HAS ACCEPTED YOU AS THE SIXTEENTH ADEPT OF THIS GENERATION
FROM NOW ON, YOU SHALL LEARN THE INNER TEACHINGS OF OUR MARTIAL
TRAIN HARD AND PROGRESS SO YOU MAY BRING FAME AND HONOR TO THE QING-CHENG
I, YOUR PUPIL, UNDERSTAND! I SHALL NEVER FORGET! EVEN IN DEATH!

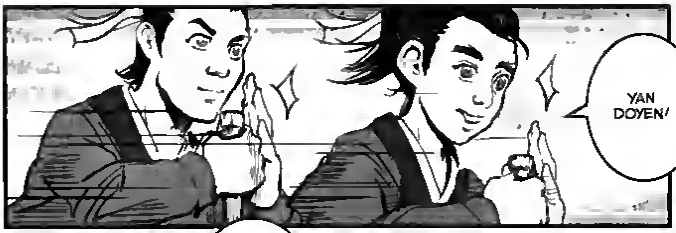
This was Yan Heng's first, and last, time seeing his teacher's stern face smile so warmly.

These young students are last month's new recruits. Their group name is Kun Third Group.
GOOD MORNING, DOYEN!
SIR, GOOD MORN-ING!
GOOD MORNING, SIR!
GOOD MORNING ADEPT.


HAH, HE'S NOT THAT MUCH OLDER THAN US.
HMPH, HE SEEMS NERVOUS AT EASE!
MORNING.
LET'S GET STARTED.

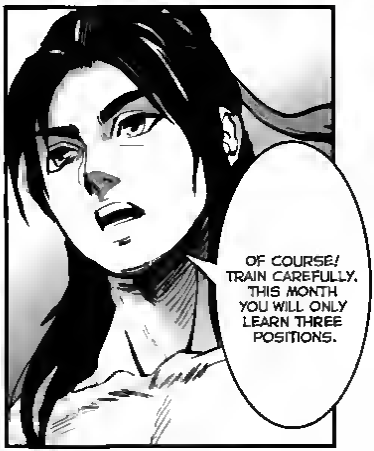
ONE OF THE BASIC SWORD TECHNIQUES IS CALLED WIND-FIRE SWORD.
Wah! Look at those muscles!
I SHALL DEMONSTRATE IT ONCE.
MAKE SURE YOU PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO HOW MY BODY MOVES.

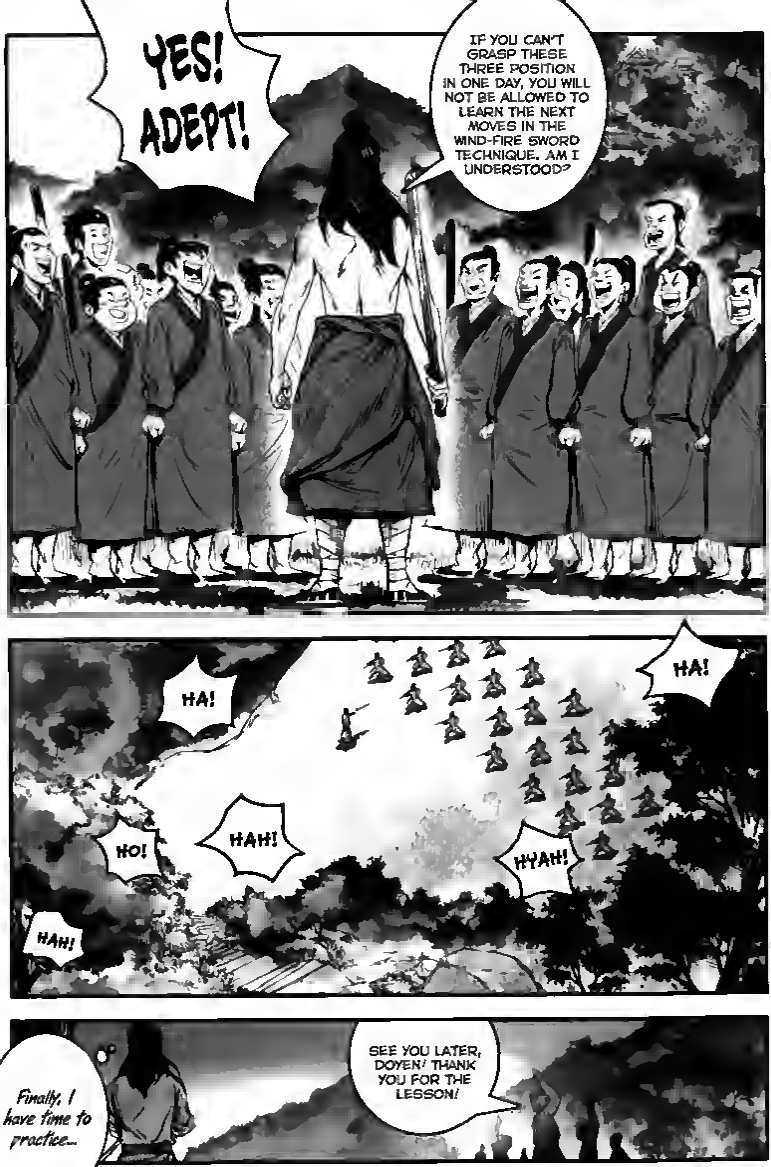

Yan Heng wanted to demonstrate the move slowly and clearly for the younger students. However, once he held the sword, all restraint was lost.
Wind-Fire Sword
FIRST STANCE: SWORD OPENING POSITION
SECOND STANCE: HALF COVERED BLOCK
THIRD STANCE STAR CHASING MOON
Star Chasing Moon
It was only a day's difference, but the move Star Chasing Moon had become faster and more powerful than before.
He had no idea that real battle had this effect on martial artists.
His muscles did not become stronger and his movement flow had not change.
However, his heart did.


YAN DOYEN!

ADEPT YAN, CAN WE NOW BEGIN TO LEARN THE WIND-FIRE SWORD TECHNIQUE?

DON'T THINK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE. JUST BLOCK AND THRUST.
IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO LEARN IT WITHIN A MONTH, YOU WILL CONTINUE WITH YOUR TRAINING FOR ANOTHER MONTH.


OF COURSE! TRAIN CAREFULLY. THIS MONTH YOU WILL ONLY LEARN THREE POSITIONS.


YES! ADEPT!
IF YOU CAN'T GRASP THESE THREE POSITION IN ONE DAY, YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO LEARN THE NEXT MOVES IN THE WIND-FIRE SWORD TECHNIQUE. AM I UNDERSTOOD?
HA!
HA!
HAH!
HO!
HAH!
HYAH!
SEE YOU LATER, DOYEN! THANK YOU FOR THE LESSON!
Finally, I have time to practice...

HAVE SUCH AUTHORITY, XIAO LIU.
YOU...
YOU'VE CHANGED SO MUCH SINCE YOU BECAME AN ADEPT.
YOU WERE SO FOCUSED ON TEACHING THAT YOU DIDN'T EVEN REALIZE I WAS HERE

DON'T MAKE FUN OF ME...
SWORD WIELDING IDIOT!
I WANTED TO CONGRATULATE YOU WHEN YOU RETURNED YESTERDAY, YOU DIDN'T EVEN COME TO SEE ME!
XIAO LI...
WHY DID YOU SNEAK OUT SO EARLY WHEN IT'S SO COLD? IF YOUR SICKNESS RETURNS I'LL BE SCOLDED BY MY ELDERS.
EVERYONE ON THIS MOUNTAIN TREATS ME LIKE I AM INVISIBLE
IF YOU HAD REMEMBERED ME, YOU WOULD HAVE SNUCK OUT TO SEE ME, RIGHT?
IF XIAO YING HADN'T TOLD ME, I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT YOU HAD DIED UNDER SOMEONE ELSE'S SWORD!
Crap! I forgot to meet up with her yesterday!

YINGZHI SAID THAT THE MASTER GAVE ME THIS NAME* BECAUSE I AM TOO SOFT...
COME, TAKE A LOOK!
*T/N: HENG MEANS CROSS, OR A BIT VIOLENT
.....?

ON THIS WHOLE MOUNTAIN, ONLY YOU WOULD THINK SO MUCH OF THEM...
COMMON-ERS...
NEVER SOME STRANGER NAMED YAN HENG.
YOU WILL ALWAYS BE XIAO LIU TO ME...
I ONLY WANT YOU TWO TO CALL ME BY THAT NAME.
OKAY. ONLY WHEN THERE IS NO ONE ELSE AROUND, YOU AND XIAO YING, MAY CALL ME XIAO LIU.

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

Chapter
3/END

BLOOD AND STEEL

by

Author: 喬靖夫 > Jozev

Manhua by 夢馬工作室 > Unicorn Studios

Comic Design > Felix Ip

Script: Toe Yuen

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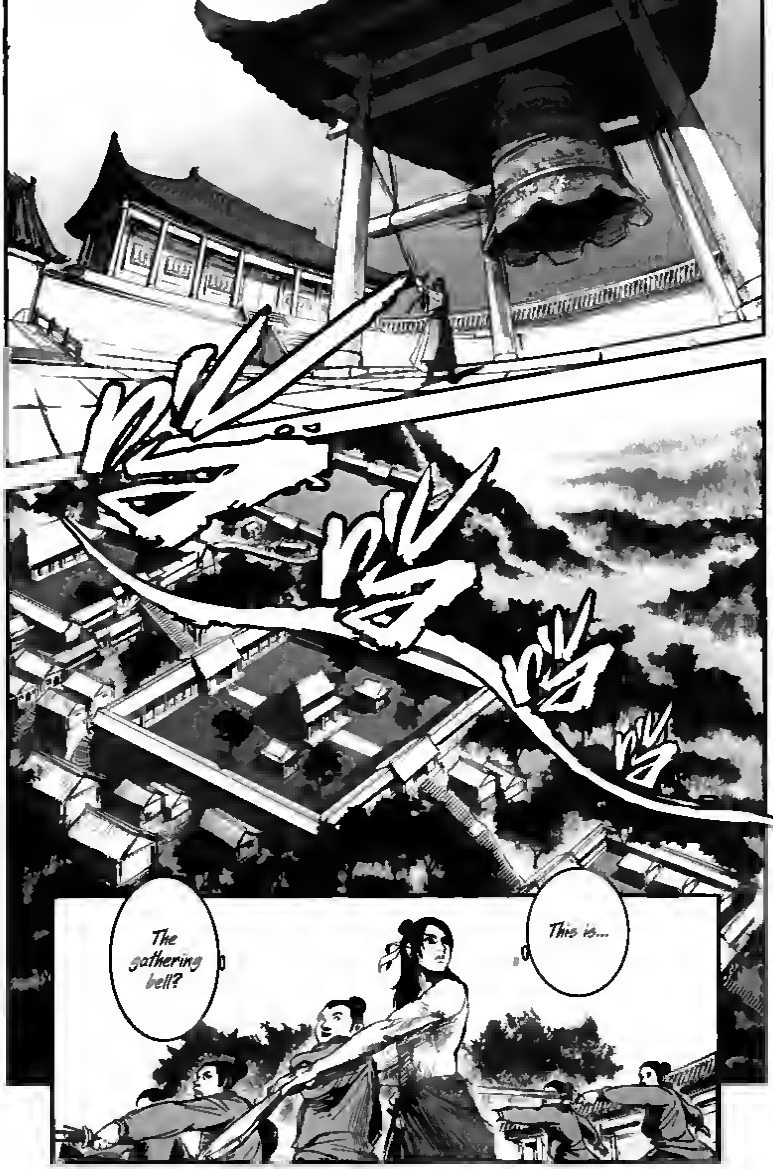
WEI JIANG SHEN
拍!
SO MEAN! WHY ARE YOU BEING SO NASTY?! I NEVER HIT YOU AS HARD AS YOU HIT ME WHEN I PLAY AS HE ZI-SHENG!

HAH! I'LL SHOW YOU, CHUANXI BRAT, THE STRONGEST QING-CHENG SWORD TECHNIQUE EVER!
?
WAH! DOOOO OON'T!!

KID, LISTEN UP!

FROM TOMORROW ON YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO PLAY SUCH GAME EVER AGAIN!


The gathering bell?
This is...

XIAO LIU! HURRY, TAKE YOUR SWORD!
SENIOR ADEPT, WHAT'S GOING ON...?
DON'T ASK! JUST WAIT FOR THE MASTER TO TELL US!
AH! I SHOULD BE CALLING YOU YAN HENG!
THANK YOU, SENIOR ADEPT.
THE SCHOOL OF WUDANG STYLE HAS CONTACTED US...
TOMORROW THEY WILL VISIT QING-CHENG MOUNTAIN.
THE BEST IN PARADISE

WE KNOW NOTHING OF THEIR INTENTIONS.
HOWEVER THEY MAY HAVE SENT A FEW OF THEIR STUDENT TO DUEL AND TO TEST THE STRENGTH OF THE QING-CHENG SWORD STYLE.
Qing-Cheng Style's Assistant Master, Chen Hong-Li.
THEY SENT THIS LETTER YESTERDAY TELLING US OF THEIR ARRIVAL TOMORROW. WHAT KIND OF MARTIAL ARTS MANNER IS THAT?
呼!
呼!
呼!
I HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO REPORT!
YOU SHOULD KNOW THE RULES...
YOU CAN'T ENTER AT THIS TIME...
Are you looking down on me?

I, YOU'RE HUMBLE STUDENT, REPORTS IN THE STEAD OF THE GUARD AT THE DOOR!
A GROUP OF MEN CLAIMING TO BE WUDANG'S PEOPLE ENTERED THE MOUNTAIN AND IS CURRENTLY AT THE XUAN MEN SHE!*
SPEAK QUICK-LY!

*T/N- XUAN MEN SHE IS A PLACE TO WELCOME GUESTS FOR QING-CHENG

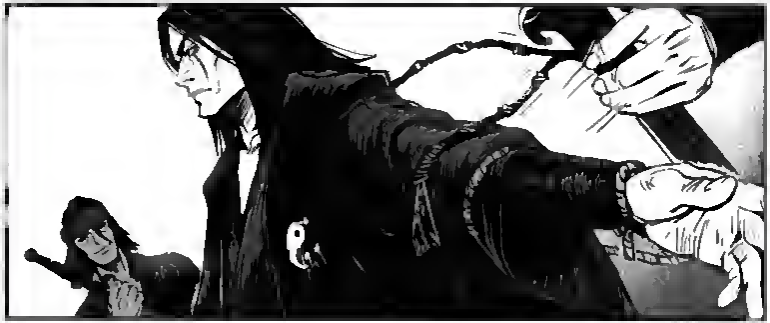
YE CHEN-YUAN.
I OFFER MY APOLOGIES I WAS UNABLE TO WELCOME THE WUDANG STYLE'S MEMBERS EARLIER
AND YOU ARE ..?
I DECIDED TO ARRIVE EARLY. WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE OUR EARLY ARRIVAL MAY HAVE CAUSED YOU.
I AM JIANG YUN-LAN, A PUPIL OF THE WUDANG STYLE. TODAY WE WERE LUCKY TO HAVE SUCH A GOOD WEATHER ON OUR SIDE THAT...
YOU MUST BE THE SECOND HIGHEST MASTER, MASTER SONG.

PLEASE DON'T TROUBLE YOURSELVES OUR HEAD-MASTER IS ALREADY WAITING INSIDE!
HOWEVER... ARE YOU CARRYING?

AH, WE UNDER-STAND.

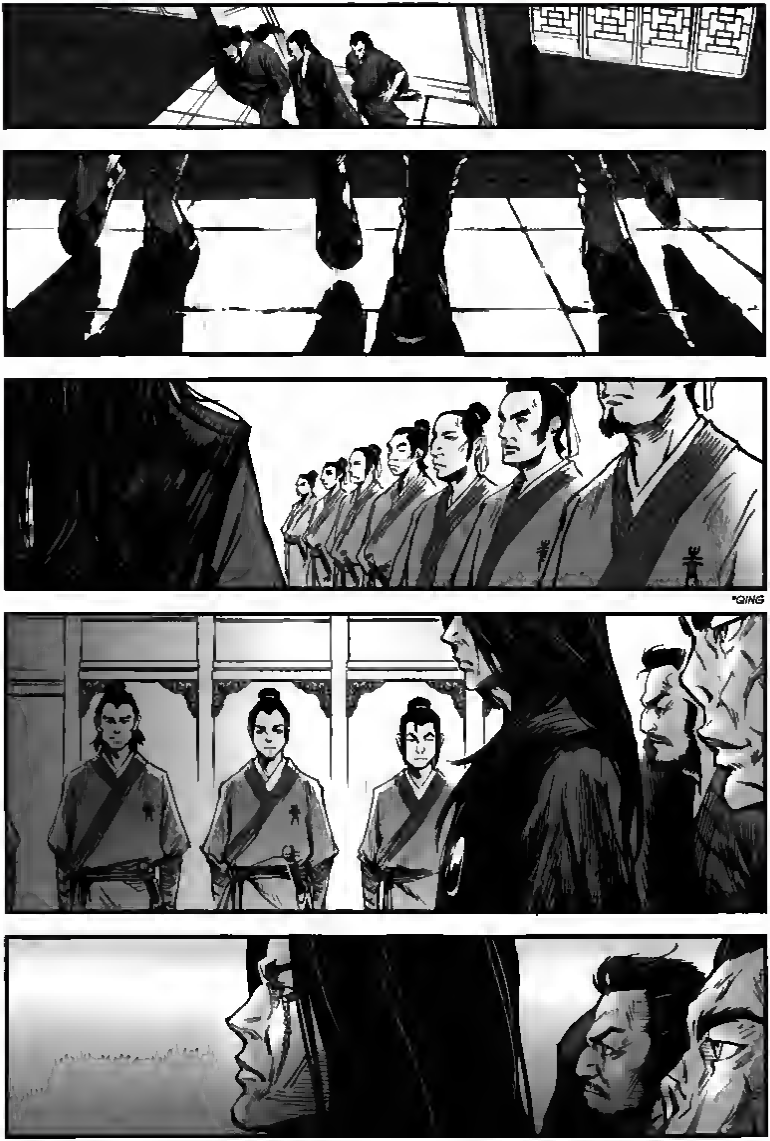
AH....
WEAPONS?

What kind of weapon is that...?

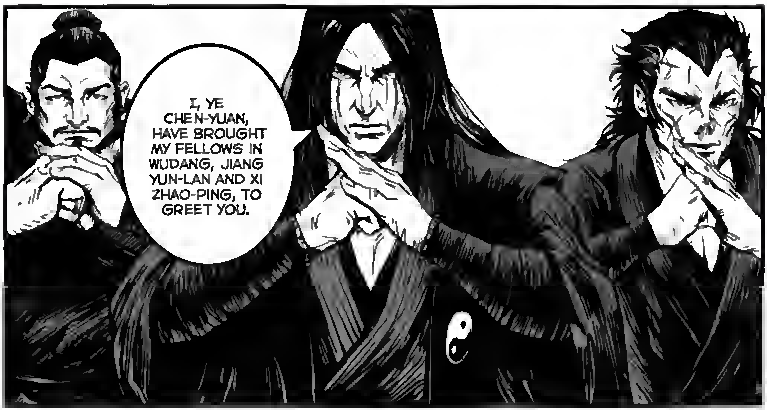


IS THIS ACCEPTABLE?

PLEASE.


*QING

I HEARD TALES OF A FEROCIOUS TIGER THAT RESIDED IN THE QING-CHENG MOUNTAINS.
TODAY I SEE THOSE LEGENDS ARE TRUE.


I, YE CHEN-YUAN, HAVE BROUGHT MY FELLOWS IN WUDANG, JIANG YUN-LAN AND XI ZHAO-PING, TO GREET YOU.

ASSISTANT MASTER YE, WHAT BRINGS YOU TO SO FAR OF A PLACE AS SICHUAN?
WHAT ELSE BESIDES...
VISITING US OF THE QING-CHENG STYLE?

THE BEST IN PRACH-UAB!
THESE FOUR WORDS ARE WRITTEN PROUDLY AND BOLDLY! GOOD!
BUT, THE BEST IN PRACHAUB, THIS PHRASE...
ARE THERE ANY OBJECTIONS FROM THE SCHOOL OF EMEI STYLE, WHO IS ALSO IN SICHUAN?
IN THE WORLD OF MARTIAL ARTS FIGHTING OVER A NAME IS COMMONPLACE!
HEADMASTER, HAVE YOU NEVER THOUGHT OF CHANGING THE PHRASE TO, "THE BEST IN THE WORLD?"

WHAT OUR MASTER MEANS IS...
THERE ARE MANY MARTIAL ART STYLES AND PUPILS UNDER THE HEAVEN, HOWEVER WHO—
HOHO, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE MAN WHO HAS SUCH FEARLESSNESS!!
THE BEST IN THE WORLD?!
*T/N: THIS IS A WORD PLAY BASED ON THE "BEST IN THE WORLD," WHICH CAN ALSO MEAN THE ONLY THE WORLD. HE JUST INSULTED QING-CHENG BY SAYING WUDANG IS HIGHER THAN THEM.
ACTUALLY, IF YOU WISH TO PUT UP "THE BEST IN THE WORLD" SIGN, IT'S NOT THAT HARD...
YOU MERELY NEED TO CHANGE THE QING-CHENG SIGN TO—
WUDANG STYLE'S QING-CHENG ROAD!
THAT WAY YOU CAN TRULY CALL YOURSELVES THE ONLY IN THE WORLD*.

WHAT ?!
HOW DARE YOU SPOUT SUCH NON-SENSE!
Heh

WHAT IF I REFUSE TO TAKE BACK MY WORDS?

OUR SCHOOL'S HEADMASTER, YAO, HAS ORDERED US TO DUEL WITH QING-CHENG STYLE...

WUDANG
AND TO PROVE WUDANG STYLE MARTIAL ARTS ...
IS THE BEST IN THE WORLD!
Best in the World...
These are just four simple words.

However, was there anyone in the martial arts world that did not dream of these four little words?

But... How many had the guts to say them?

Chapter
4/end

BLOOD AND STEEL

Author: 喬靖夫 > Jozev
Manhua by: 夢馬工作室 > Unicorn Studios
Comic Design > Felix Ip
Script: Toe Yuen

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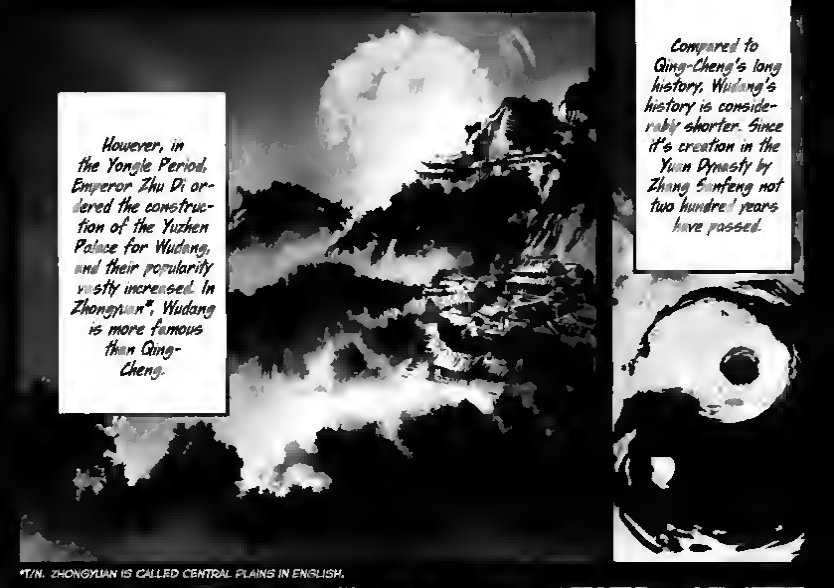

However, in the Yongle Period, Emperor Zhu Di ordered the construction of the Yuzhen Palace for Wudang, and their popularity vastly increased. In Zhongyuan*, Wudang is more famous than Qing-Cheng.
Compared to Qing-Cheng's long history, Wudang's history is considerably shorter. Since it's creation in the Yuan Dynasty by Zhang Sanfeng not two hundred years have passed.

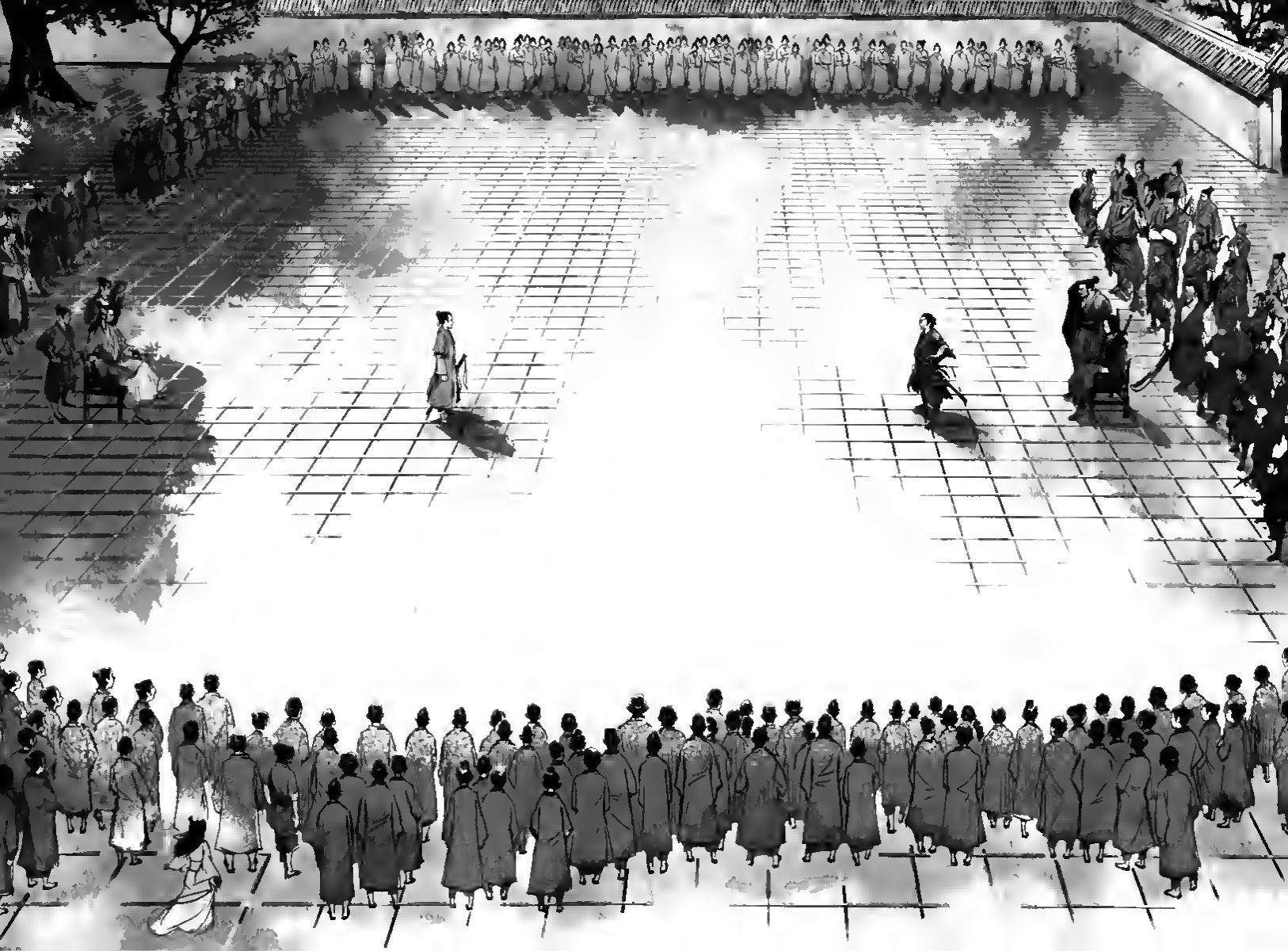
*T/N. ZHONGYUAN IS CALLED CENTRAL PLAINS IN ENGLISH.

Twenty years ago, the former Wudang Headmaster Tieqing Zi, with thirty-eight of his most skilled swords, eliminated the Wu Yi Religion. At the time, Wu Yi Religion was considered the most evil martial arts style of the time.

In this violent fight between good and evil, Wudang won, but suffered tremendous losses. Out of the thirty-eight eight students who went with the headmaster, only five survived. One of them was Ye Chen Yuan, who was at the time, nearly twenty years old.
Ever since, Wudang has become even more famous, and was given the privilege to build stone monuments on the mountain by the government. Wudang is listed in the ranking of the good styles, and rivals the Shaolin Temple, which is considered the master of martial arts due to its various deadly techniques.
From there on, Wudang changed... The training became harsher.
Some say Gongsun Qing's, Ye Chen Yuan's real name, desire for power drove him onto the path of evil, and that he has killed too many in his life.

Though the rules of the Empire were strict, styles such as Qing-Cheng and Wudang have such massive military strength that the government outposts try their hardest not to be involved with them.
Gongsun Qing continued to use the Yuzhen Palace built by order of the emperor as the center of Wudang. However, the current imperial court was unhappy about this.
First of all, the Good styles helped to keep the peace of the entire country. Secondly, if any of the styles was truly angered, no one, even with the army, had any hopes of winning, and thus the groups could do as they pleased.
With no one restraining Wudang, Wudang's style grew exponentially in these twenty years.

Four years ago, Gongsun Qing died, and under the current headmaster, Wudang Style has become more active, sending out it's students all over the martial world.
In a few years, many smaller martial arts styles, in places all visited by Wudang's students, were defeated and then added under Wudang's banner.

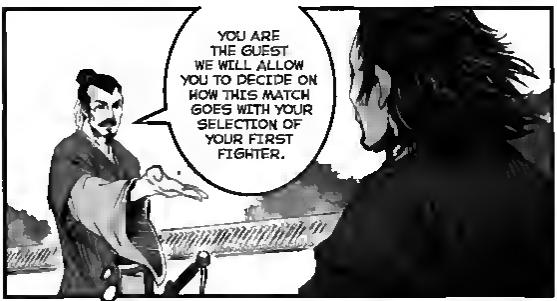


XIAO YIN...! WHAT HAPP-ENED?
WUDANG STYLE'S PEOPLE ARE CHALLEN-GING US.
WHAT? WUDANG...?
AREN'T THEY ALSO ONE OF THE GOOD STYLES? WHY ARE THEY....?
DON'T ASK ME, I DON'T KNOW EITHER.

WE SHALL HAVE THREE MATCHES. WHAT DO YOU THINK?
THREE MATCHES? DON'T BE SUCH COWARDS.
IF YOU WANT, YOU CAN COME AT US ALL TOGETHER. WE DON'T CARE IF YOU HAVE MORE PEOPLE.

IT'S NOT A FIGHT FIGHT BETWEEN CITY THUGS.
THIS IS A MATCH.

IF A MATCH IS GOOD OR A FIGHT IS GOOD, WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? IT'S ALL ABOUT WHO WINS OR LOSES.


YOU ARE THE GUEST WE WILL ALLOW YOU TO DECIDE ON HOW THIS MATCH GOES WITH YOUR SELECTION OF YOUR FIRST FIGHTER.

.....

Let's see who you send out first, so we may find someone who will be able to deal with you.

.....
DEHAI.
GO FIGHT HIM WITH YOUR PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES
YES!

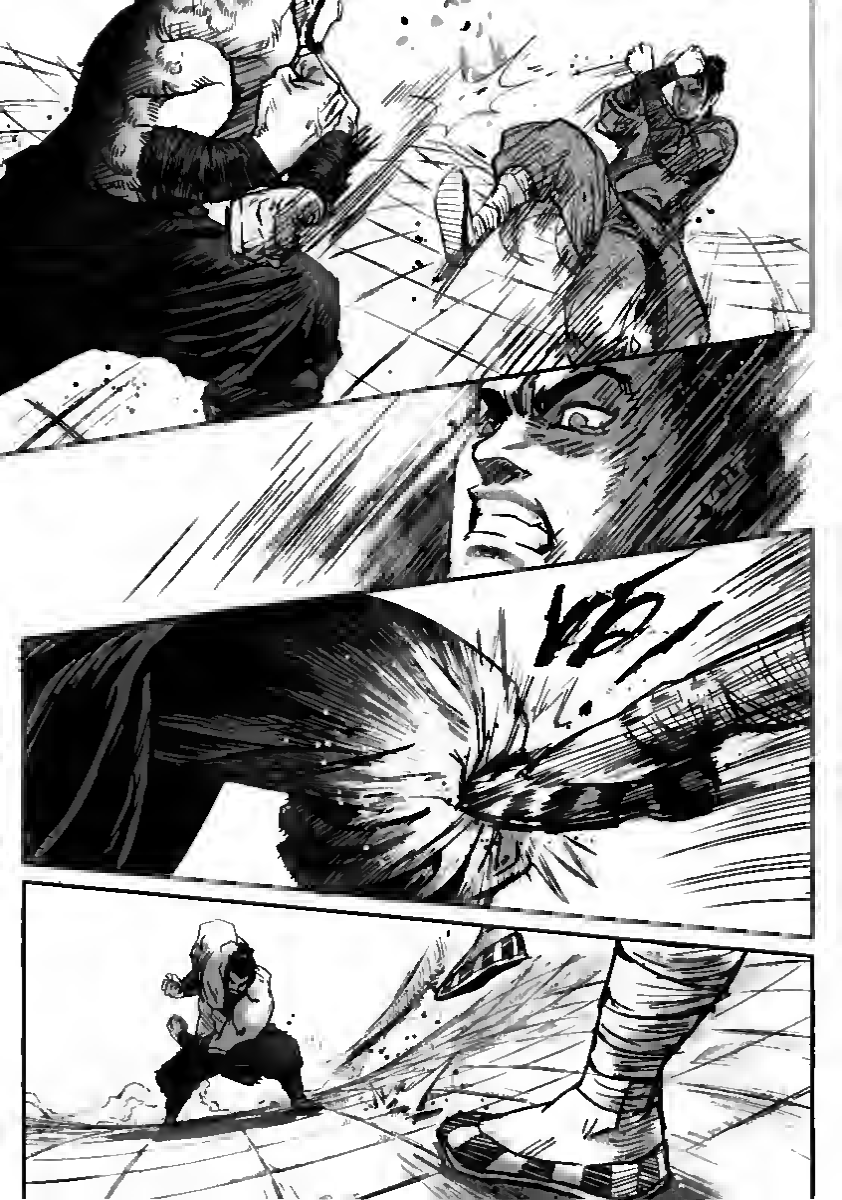
Even though Qing-Cheng isn't famous for hand to hand techniques, they have a short sword technique, called Up Secret Sword. This secret technique stresses close combat and can even substitute a sword for a fist.
The one who specializes in hand techniques is Assistant Headmaster Chen Hong Li. He saw Song Dehai's talent with physical techniques and has trained him in those techniques for the last ten years. Dehai is the one most suitable for this fight.

What secrets does that strange body hold?

WUDANG'S
XI ZHAO PING!
QING-CHENG'S
SONG DEHAI!

So there are people that use an arm as a shield...
His guard is tight, I can't attack. Damn...
.....

WHAT? I AM WAITING FOR YOU!
IF YOU WON'T COME ...
THEN I WON'T HOLD BACK!


KB!

THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN BEAT ME LIKE THAT!
SO PICK UP A WEAPON. OR SEND SOMEONE MORE CAPABLE IN YOUR STEAD!
This Xi Zhao Ping... The technique to relax and tighten muscles definitely belongs to the Wudang method. And he's obviously a student of it, but...
I can't believe W[illegible]'s techniques are this violent...
This monster's defense is so strong! It felt as though I struck a metalic pole.
Form of Burning Fire!
When Song Dehai strikes, he imagines flames behind himself to stimulate the nerves to increase his reflexes. This doubles his movement speed.

Xi Zhao Ping also knows numerous form techniques, and in this moment, he imagined himself as a boulder, tightening his muscles to an incredible degree.
FORM OF BOULDER!
Dehai's strong sword hand stab could only strike the eyelid and no further!

This is bad! This big grappling move is hard as steel. I can't break free!

If I don't go with this slamming movement, my right arm will be destroyed.

Brother!

STOP!
IT'S YOUR VIC-TORY!

BOOM!
BROTHER!
DE-HA!!
HEHE
HEART-LESS BA-STARD!

Song Dehai, a future headmaster candidate, has had his martial arts life taken away from him
A sword master's right arm is his life and to suffer this much damage is...
AND YOU CALL THIS A MARTIAL ARTS MATCH?!
A FIGHT OR A MATCH BOTH ARE GOOD BUT THERE ISN'T ANY DIFFERENCE TO US.
WE ALREADY EXPLAINED ...

WHO WANTS TO TRY WUDANG'S TWO ARM ROBBING FISTS?
WHO'S NEXT?
It's a duel.
This isn't a martial arts match.
YOU! WHAT IF YOU DUEL ME?
CAN'T THIS OLD MAN DO IT?

YINGZHI! WHAT NONSENSE ARE YOU SPOUTING?
NO... ASSISTANT MASTER SONG...HE ISN'T A SUITABLE OPPONENT...
I AM NOT SPOUTING NONSENSE! THIS IS MY HONEST OPINION
TAKE REVENGE FOR YOUR SON!
ISN'T THAT A TATTOO FROM THE WU YI RELIGION?! WHY DO YOU HAVE IT...?
THAT...

WHAT'S SO STRANGE ABOUT IT?
MY FATHER WAS A FOLLOWER OF THE WU YI RELIGION.
HOWEVER, TWENTY YEARS AGO, HE BROUGHT ME TO WUDANG TO JOIN. WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?
WHY ARE YOU SPOUTING SUCH UNRELATED NONSENSE?
ARE YOU GOING TO FIGHT? ARE YOU GOING TO FIGHT FOR YOUR USELESS SON?

QING-CHENG STYLE'S HONOR CANNOT BE DEFI-LED...
At this moment, Yan Heng was angry beyond belief, and all the blood had rushed to his head
BRAT YOU HAVE COURAGE.

ARE YOU DONE TALK-ING?

THIS IS A HONOR.

STEP DOWN ZHAO PING.
TODAY, THERE IS NO ONE ELSE AT HIS LEVEL.
This is the only match that counts.

MY DEAR PARTNER. THE TIME HAS COME!

Chapter
5/end

BLOOD AND STEEL

by

Author: 喬靖夫 > Jozev

Manhua by 夢馬工作室 > Unicorn Studios

Comic Design > Felix Ip

Script: Toe Yuen

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Even though the father and son haven't spoken, both know in their hearts that Song Dehai's career as a swordsman is over.
DON'T GO THERE.
YOU WILL ONLY BOTHER YOUR BROTHER.

COME, KID.

WE COULD STOP AND ASK XI ZHAO PING TO APOLOGIZE TO BROTHER SONG?
THERE IS NO NEED FOR THIS MATCH.
MR. HE, I WILL SAY AGAIN.
IF...
MR. HE AGREES TO "THAT".

AGREE TO THAT? [WUDANG IS THE BEST MARTIAL ARTS IN THE WORLD]?
ARE YOU CRAZY? "BEST IN THE WORLD"? ARE YOU GOING TO DOMINATE EVERY MARTIAL ARTS?
YOU ARE CRAZY!
THOUSANDS OF YEARS HAVE PASSED, DOES IT REALLY MATTER WHICH MARTIAL ART STYLE DOMINATES?
YES.
OUR HEAD-MASTER TAO IS CRAZY.

HE WANTS TO COMPLETE SOMETHING NO ONE HAS ACCOMPLISHED IN THOUSANDS OF YEARS.
ARE YOU CRAZY? HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE IN WUDANG?
THE WORLD IS LARGE. THERE ARE SO MANY STYLES. HOW ARE YOU GOING TO MANAGE OVER THEM?
WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT MANAGE?
WE ONLY WANT RECOGNITION.

"Nothing but a wooden sign"... this sounds really ridiculous. But to the martial artists, this violated their hearts' most inner thought.
They had never dreamed that Qing-cheng Style would ever experience this harsh test. The hearts of the 200+ people start to race
ARE...
YOU DONE TALKING?
.....

CAN WE START?
YES.

Jiang Yunlan had insulted Qing-cheng to infuriate him, so they can have an advantage in the final battle.
For masters at this level a single stray thought can be the difference between life and death.
.....
So this is Qing-cheng's headmaster.
But He Zisheng is not angry at all. His thoughts are purely focused for battle.
Jiang Yunlan's speech had no effect.

Water-fire Swords
Ye Chenyuan's twin swords are the same type. The swords' guards are both shaped like a bat and the blades are thick and heavy with eight brass stars.
However, their thickness, guard, and weight is different. They were made specifically for Ye Chenyuan allowing for the miniscule differences between his left and right sides, thus allowing him to use techniques to the best of his ability.

The right-handed sword is four feet long, the blade is narrow and long with a guard like a fierce dragon. There is a golden shine to the blade. Towards the guard are two engraved words, "Fierce Dragon". That is this swords name.
The left-handed sword is only two feet in length. The blade is thick like a knife with an indentation along the middle for blood to run down, the guard forms a tiger. The blade looks violent and fierce. It's name is "Penetrating Tiger".
Dragon-tiger Sword

Everyone watching knows that when He Zisheng holds these two swords he is prepared to use the ultimate Qing-cheng technique that has lasted 300 years and every headmaster is required to learn – Female, Male, Dragon, Tiger Sword technique.
He Zisheng showed a smile any martial artist would make in this moment.
YOU ALSO USE TWO SWORDS, VERY GOOD.
I'M PLEASED.

To be continued in volume 2

DIRECTORY

WEAPONS DESCRIPTIONS

Old-looking Long sword

Description:
Ancient and old. The scabbard is made of shark screen. Used in conjunction with a metal claw to make up for the lack of reach.

Water-fire Sword

Description:
Ye Chenyuan's twin swords are the same type. The swords' guards are both shaped like a bat and the blades are thick and heavy with eight brass stars. However, their thickness, guard, and weight is different. They were made specifically for Ye Chenyuan allowing for the miniscule differences between his left and right sides, thus allowing him to use techniques to the best of his ability.

Qing-cheng Sword

Description:
Normally stored in Qing-cheng store rooms. Not all pupils have the right to wield it. For example, Zhang Peng and Yan Heng only used it under orders of their master.

Fierce Dragon

Description:
A three hundred year old relic made for the Qing-cheng style's ultimate technique, [Female, Male, Dragon, Tiger Sword]. Long and narrow with a golden streak the blade spans four feet. The guard is shaped like a lotus with scales like a dragons. Both the scabbard and sword are engraved.

Metal Sword

Description:
Used daily by Qing-cheng students. Used to practice moves and techniques.

Penetrating Tiger

Description:
A three hundred year old relic made for the Qing-cheng style's ultimate technique, [Female, Male, Dragon, Tiger Sword]. Only two feet long and thick like a knife, the blade has an indention running down the middle for blood. The fierce and violent design features a tiger as the guard.

Metal Claw

Description:
Designed by Jiang Yunlan. Used for attack and defense. Able to grapple an opponent's weapons. Used with a long sword to make up for lack of close combat abilities.

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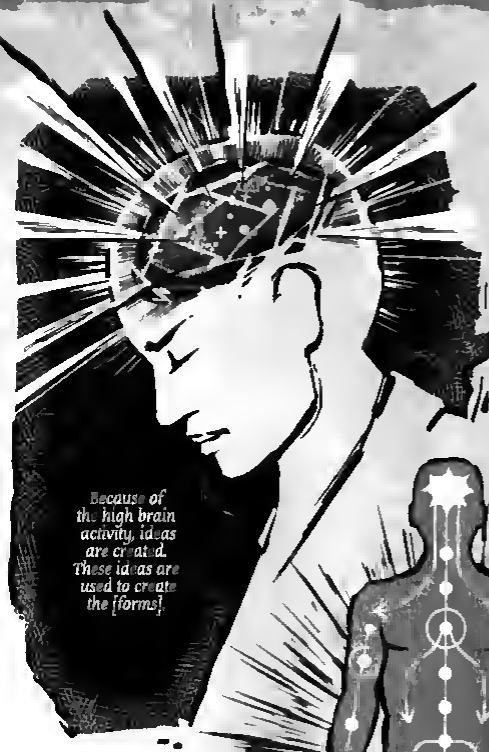
To became a master martial artist one must have great [fighting spirit] Through [determination] people are able to understand and improve Thus, mast high leveled martial artists come from a proper martial style.

There are many different types of [forms]. Some affect the body, like being as flexible as a spring or as hard as a boulder Same master use animals and nature as forms to increase their powers

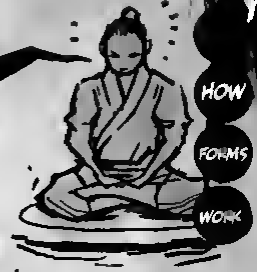
He Zisheng and Ye Chenyuan are both in their peaks

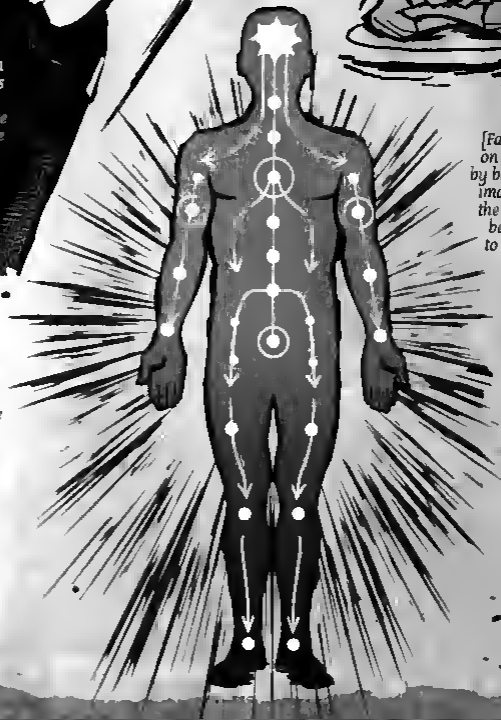
Even though they have trained far long periods of time, the body of a martial artist becomes slower than the commoner as they age However, as they age the martial artists emotions become stabilized, thus their [fighting spirit] is relied upon, substituting for thelack of endurance. Their skills become even better than when they were young Normally, the peak af a martial artists life is between forty and fifty



Because of the high brain activity, ideas are created. These ideas are used to create the [forms].

The martial artist first, through various training methods like meditation, facuses himself, allowing his speed and reactions to reach a superior level.





[Farms] rely on [images], by believing an image is real the body can be pushed to its limits.

Qing-cheng's Song Dehai's [Burning Fire] used the image that fire was behind him ta increase his reflexes to an exceptional level

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